Lena Behrns Zaage

Marie's parents were

Johann Joachim Martin "John" ZAAGE

& Carolina Johanna Henriette "Lena" BEHRNS

The Zaages were peasant farmers in Divitz-Kenz near Barth. Many generations of John's ancestors had lived on the Darss-Zingst Peninsula which is across the water from Barth in the Baltic Sea.

Marie was their only child. It must have been hard to bear thinking about her leaving them behind. They immigrated to Astoria along with her and the children, arriving in November 1883.

Per the land entry file, we learn that Rudolph Basel had started a claim for 160 acres of homestead land after he arrived in Astoria. This land was located above Youngs River Falls. It was only a few miles from Astoria, but was difficult to get to. One had to take a boat up Youngs River to the falls and then hike way back into the woods to get there. It was remote, hilly and wild - deep in the virgin forest, heavily wooded, with gigantic fir, spruce and hemlock trees.

Rudolph sold this land and the improvements he had made to John Zaage for a nominal fee. John was 58 years old when he began the work of turning this wilderness into a farm. Even though he cleared only a small part of the land, that must have been a tremendous undertaking for him. He testified that he and his wife had settled there on 17 April 1884 and had lived there continuously when he made his testimony as a claimant on 20 August 1889.

John died on 6 November 1898 at the age of 72. Lena then moved in with daughter Marie's family in Astoria. Marie sold the homestead to D.M. Shanks in 1901. Eventually, it was acquired by logging companies and has probably been logged off several times through the years.

Lena Zaage died on 27 Dec 1920 and the age of 92.

John Zaage

Hilda
Minette
Great Grandmother
Zaage

Lena Behrns Zaage

Top Lena Behrns Zoage – Lena Basel – Marie Basel

Bottom " " " Edith Basel – "